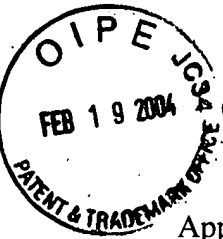


P23524.A02



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Takaaki YANO

Confirmation No.: 4055

Serial No: 10/603,774 ✓

Examiner: William B. PERKEY

Filed: June 26, 2003

Group Art Unit: 2851

For: FLASH DEVICE

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir :

In response to the Notice of Allowability, mailed by the Patent and Trademark Office on November 26, 2003, and to the Statement of Reasons for Allowance attached thereto, Applicant wishes to clarify the record with respect to the basis for the patentability of claims in the present application. In this regard, while Applicant does not disagree with the Examiner's indication that certain identified features are not disclosed by the references, Applicant submits that each of the claims in the present application recite a particular combination of features, and that the basis for patentability of each of these claims is based on the totality of the particular features recited therein.

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Should there be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Takaaki YANO

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February 12, 2004
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